Status of All Claims in the Application:

Claims 1-49 (cancelled)

50. (Previously Presented) A sensor assembly for monitoring movement of a hand or an arm of a person near a head-neck region of the person, the sensor assembly comprising:

a sensor that is positioned near the head-neck region of the person, the sensor emitting a beam and detecting when the beam is interrupted by the movement of at least one of the hand and the arm near the head-neck region of the person; and

a signaling unit that generates a sensory signal that is received by the person when the sensor detects that the beam is interrupted.

51. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 50 wherein sensor detects when an arm of the person interrupts the beam.

52. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 50 wherein the sensory signal is a signal selected from the group consisting of an audible signal, a vibratory signal and a visual signal.

53. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 50 wherein the sensor is secured to the person.

54. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 50 wherein the sensor is contained in a single housing.

55. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 50 further comprising a counter that monitors the number of times that the sensor detects movement of the object near the head-neck region.

56. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 50 wherein the sensor generates a plurality of beams positioned in a first pattern which is a specified distance away from the head-neck region of the person and the sensor detects when one or more of the beams is interrupted by the hand.

57. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 56 wherein the sensor generates a plurality of second beams positioned in a second pattern which is spaced apart from the first pattern, and the sensor detects when one or more of the second beams is interrupted by the hand.

58. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 57 wherein the first pattern is closer to the head-neck region than the second pattern.

59. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 56 wherein the first pattern is substantially planar shaped.

60. (Previously Presented) A sensor assembly for monitoring movement of an object near a head-neck region of an animal, the sensor assembly comprising:

a sensor that emits a beam and that detects when the beam is interrupted by the movement of the object near the head-neck region of the animal; and

a counter that monitors the number of times that the sensor detects that the beam is interrupted.

61. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 60 wherein the object is a body region of the animal.

62. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 60 further comprising a signaling unit that generates a sensory signal that is received by the animal when the sensor detects that the beam is interrupted, wherein the sensory signal is a signal selected from the group consisting of an audible signal, a vibratory signal and a visual signal.

63. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 60 wherein the sensor is secured to the animal and is positioned near a chest region of the animal.

64. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 60 wherein the sensor is secured to an extremity of the animal.

65. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 60 wherein the sensor generates a plurality of beams positioned in a first pattern which is a specified distance away from the head-neck region of the animal and the sensor detects when one or more of the beams is interrupted by the object.

66. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 65 wherein the sensor generates a plurality of second beams positioned in a second pattern which is spaced apart from the first pattern, and the sensor detects when one or more of the second beams is interrupted by the object.

67. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 66 wherein the first pattern is closer to the head-neck region than the second pattern.

68. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 65 wherein the first pattern is substantially planar shaped.

69. (Previously Presented) A sensor assembly for monitoring movement of an object near a head-neck region of a person, the sensor assembly comprising:

a sensor that emits a plurality of beams positioned in a first pattern which is a specified distance away from the head-neck region of the person and the sensor detects when one or more of the beams is interrupted by the object, the sensor being secured to the person; and

a signaling unit that generates a sensory signal that is received by the person when the sensor detects that one or more of the beams is interrupted.

70. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 69 wherein the object is a body region of the animal.

71. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 69 wherein the sensory signal is a signal selected from the group consisting of an audible signal, a vibratory signal and a visual signal.

72. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 69 wherein the sensor is positioned near a chest region of the person.

73. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 69 further comprising a counter that monitors the number of times that the sensor detects movement of the object near the head-neck region.

74. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 69 wherein the sensor generates a plurality of second beams positioned in a second pattern which is spaced apart from the first pattern, and the sensor detects when one or more of the second beams is interrupted by the object.

75. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 74 wherein the first pattern is closer to the head-neck region than the second pattern.

76. (Previously Presented) The sensor assembly of claim 69 wherein the first pattern is substantially planar shaped.

77. (Previously Presented) A method for monitoring movement of a hand or an arm of a person near a head-neck region of the person, the method comprising the steps of:

positioning a sensor that detects movement of the hand near the head-neck region, the sensor emitting a beam and detecting when the beam is

interrupted by the movement of at least one of the hand and the arm near the head-neck region of the person; and

generating a sensory signal that is received by the person when the sensor detects that the beam is interrupted.

78. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 77 wherein the step of generating a sensory signal includes generating a signal selected from the group consisting of an audible signal, a vibratory signal and a visual signal.

79. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 77 wherein the step of positioning includes the step of securing the sensor to the person near a chest region of the person.

80. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 77 further comprising the step of counting the number of times that the sensor detects movement of the hand near the head-neck region with a counter.

81. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 77 wherein the step of positioning includes the step of the sensor generating a plurality of beams positioned in a first pattern which is a specified distance away from the head-neck region of the person and the step of the sensor detecting when one or more of the beams is interrupted by the hand.

82. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 81 wherein the step of positioning includes the step of the sensor generating a plurality of second beams positioned in a second pattern which is spaced apart from the first pattern, and the step of the sensor detecting when one or more of the second beams is interrupted by the hand.

83. (Previously Presented) A method for monitoring movement of an object near a first body region of an animal, the method comprising the steps of:

positioning a sensor that detects movement of the object near the first body region, the sensor emitting a beam and detecting when the beam is interrupted by the movement of the object near the head-neck region of the animal; and

counting the number of times that the sensor detects that the beam is interrupted with a counter.

84. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 83 further comprising the step of generating a sensory signal when the sensor detects that the beam is interrupted, the sensory signal being selected from the group consisting of an audible signal, a vibratory signal and a visual signal.

85. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 83 wherein the step of positioning includes the step of securing the sensor to the animal near a chest region of the animal.

86. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 83 wherein the step of positioning includes the step of the sensor generating a plurality of beams positioned in a first pattern which is a specified distance away from the head-neck region of the animal and the step of the sensor detecting when one or more of the beams is interrupted by the object.

87. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 83 wherein the step of positioning includes the step of the sensor generating a plurality of second beams positioned in a second pattern which is spaced apart from the first pattern, and the step of the sensor detecting when one or more of the second beams is interrupted by the object.

88. (Previously Presented) A method for monitoring movement of an object near a head-neck region of a person, the method comprising the steps of:

positioning a sensor that detects movement of the object near the head-neck region, the sensor emitting a plurality of beams positioned in a first pattern which is a specified distance away from the head-neck region of the person and the sensor detects when one or more of the beams is interrupted by the object, the sensor be secured to the person; and

generating a sensory signal that is received by the person when the sensor detects that the one or more of the beams is interrupted.

89. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 88 wherein the step of positioning includes the step of the sensor generating a plurality of second beams positioned in a second pattern which is spaced apart from the first pattern, and the step of the sensor detecting when one or more of the second beams is interrupted by the object.